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Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Sovereign God, maximize us by Your spirit for the demanding responsibilities and relationships of this day. We say with the Psalmist, "God, be merciful to us and bless us, and cause Your face to shine upon us, that Your way may be known on Earth, Your salvation among the nations."—Psalm 67:1-2.

Father, our day is filled with challenges and decisions. In the quiet of this magnificent moment of conversation with You, we dedicate this day. We want to live it to Your glory.

We praise You that it is Your desire to give Your presence, wisdom, guidance, and blessings to those who ask. You give strength and power to Your people when we seek You above all else. You guide the humble and teach them Your way. Help us to humble ourselves as we begin this day so that no self-serving agenda or self-aggrandizing attitude will block Your blessings to us or to our Nation through us. May we speak with both the tenor of Your truth and the tone of Your grace. In the name of Him who taught us that the greatest among us are those who unselfishly serve. Amen.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The able majority leader, Senator LOTT of Mississippi, is recognized.

Mr. LOTT. Thank you.

SCHEDULE

Mr. LOTT. In a moment the Senate will resume consideration again of S. 1768, the emergency supplemental appropriations bill. I remind my col-

leagues, this is supposed to be an emergency, urgent supplemental. We began it in the winter. It is now spring, and I hope we can finish it before summer. But the Senate will resume work in its inimitable way, and eventually we will get to a conclusion. I have to wonder if Senators are serious at all about this emergency legislation. I think maybe as majority leader I have learned a lesson. I will not be able to ever plan again on the emergency supplemental taking a day or two. I think I will have to plan on a week or two.

Last night we reached a unanimous consent agreement limiting amendments to the bill. It is my hope—and I know it is the chairman's hope as well—that most amendments will not be offered that are on this list. We want to finish this important legislation early today so we can move on to other issues. Those of you that do have amendments on the list, if you are serious, I urge you to come over and offer those amendments this morning. The chairman is ready to proceed. Looking down the list and thinking about the time that will be needed, if Senators are reasonable, we should be able to complete this legislation sometime in the early afternoon, I hope, at the least.

Under the order, at 10 a.m. the Senate will resume 50 minutes of debate on the Enzi amendment regarding Indian gaming. It is my understanding that amendment may not need a rollcall vote, but we will have to clarify that momentarily. However, there are other pending amendments that will require rollcall votes. Surely there will be votes throughout the morning and the afternoon.

We are still hoping to reach an agreement on the Coverdell education savings account bill today. Senator DASCHLE and I continue to exchange suggestions. Sometimes we get very close, and then it seems to go back the other way. But we very well could have the second cloture vote sometime dur-

ing the day. In addition, of course, we will consider any executive and legislative items cleared for action, including the Mexico decertification legislation which we will have to do this week. We must do that under the law before the end of the month. Sometime today, I hope under a reasonable time limit—I hope not more than 2 hours—we could complete the Mexico decertification.

I remind Senators, there will be votes on Friday morning, so they need to plan their schedules accordingly, but there will not be votes after 12 noon.

I yield the floor.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BROWNBACK). Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR NATURAL DISASTERS AND OVERSEAS PEACEKEEPING EFFORTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 1998

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the clerk will report the supplemental appropriations bill.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1768) making emergency supplemental appropriations for recovery from natural disasters, and for overseas peacekeeping efforts, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes.

The Senate resumed consideration of the bill.

Pending:

McConnell modified amendment No. 2100, to provide supplemental appropriations for the International Monetary Fund for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998.

Stevens (for Nickles) amendment No. 2120, to strike certain funding for the Health Care Financing Administration.

Enzi amendment No. 2133, to prohibit the Secretary of the Interior from promulgating certain regulations relating to Indian gaming activities.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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